#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

IN RE:	)	
	)	
Estate of Thomas J. Meredith	)	No. 05 B 23012
	)	
61-6317968	)	Chapter 7
Debtor	)	
	)	Hon. John H. Squires

# FIRST AND FINAL APPLICATION OF ALAN D. LASKO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. FOR ALLOWANCE COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

ALAN D. LASKO AND ALAN D. LASKO & ASSOCIATES, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, request first and final compensation of \$1,848.00 and expenses of \$14.31 for the time period from November 17, 2006 through February 19, 2007. A detail is provided herein for the Estate, which identifies by subject matter the services performed by the Applicant. Additional detail is provided to reflect the function and individual performing said services. Lastly, each individual's classification and hourly rate is also reflected. In addition, attached as Exhibit A is the Affidavit pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2016.

#### **GENERAL**

The Debtor filed a petition under Chapter 7 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code on or about October 7, 2003 and a Trustee was appointed. On August 29, 2006, Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C. was approved by the Court issued as the accountants for the Trustee. Reflected in this fee petition is the Applicant's time to prepare the Estate's year 2005 income tax returns.

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A recap of compensation requested is as follows:

		Amount
Billing Year-End Work	\$	102.00 1,746.00
	\$_	1.848.00

The following represents a description of the primary individuals in this engagement.

#### Alan D. Lasko - CPA, CIRA

Mr. Lasko has worked primarily in the bankruptcy field over the last 22 years. He brings his 32 years of experience in providing operational support to Chapter 11 and creditor committees, as well as his technical abilities in various accounting and tax matters in bankruptcy cases. Mr. Lasko has been an expert witness, been appointed as a receiver in State Court, worked as a disbursing agent, made presentations to creditors and their committees and worked with debtor and creditor counsels in formulating plans of reorganizations and disclosure statements. Mr. Lasko is a member of the Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors (CIRA). Mr. Lasko is also a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Illinois CPA Society. Mr. Lasko also has instructed and has written seminars on various bankruptcy-related topics. Last. Mr. Lasko has broad accounting and tax experience in Chapter 7 cases.

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ESTATE OF THOMAS J. MEREDITH

James Delahunt, JD, CPA, MST - Tax Manager

Mr. Delahunt has worked primarily in the field of taxation for over 27 years. He has worked in

most areas of taxation, including but not limited to, business returns, individual returns, as well

as estates and trusts. Mr. Delahunt has worked in the field of insolvency during this time period

as well. Mr. Delahunt is an attorney and a certified public accountant and has his Masters in

Taxation. He is a member of the American Bar Association, American Institute of Certified

Public Accountants and Illinois CPA Society.

Susan J. Kilgore, CPA – Manager

Ms. Kilgore has 30 years of experience working as a manager and staff person in public

accounting. She has worked for a large and small accounting firm over this period. She has

substantial experience working primarily with commercial accounts of all sizes performing

audits and year-end accounting and tax preparation. She also has worked with a variety of

different types of for-profit and not-for-profit companies. She has an undergraduate degree in

accounting and achieved the National Honor Society for Business Administration while in

school. She is a certified public accountant and a member of the American Institute of Certified

Public Accountants and the Illinois CPA Society.

Connie Lee – Staff Accountant

Ms. Lee is a first-year staff person performing accounting and tax services. Ms. Lee has a

Bachelor of Accounting from DeVry University.

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ESTATE OF THOMAS J. MEREDITH

<u>STAFF - SUPERVISORS, SENIORS AND ASSISTANTS</u>

**SUPERVISORS** 

After a period of several years of experience, senior accountants are advanced to the supervisory

level. Supervisors have administrative and overview responsibility on a broader level than senior

accountants. Supervisors are responsible to keep the manager abreast of the progress of the

engagement of the problems encountered in a particular circumstance.

**SENIORS** 

After a period of usually 2 to 3 years, an individual is advanced to the senior level. Seniors are

primarily responsible for the day-to-day functions of fieldwork with the Court. In bankruptcy-

related work, audit seniors may also perform specific tasks at the request of a manager or

supervisor.

**ASSISTANTS** 

Staff assistants usually execute basic assignments or tasks. In bankruptcy-related work,

assistants primarily perform specific projects at specified times under the supervision of a senior,

supervisor or manager.

**BREAKDOWN BY CATEGORIES** 

The categories in this Application as listed below:

**BILLING** 

The Applicant has incurred 1.2 hours in the preparation of this fee Application.

Cost

\$102.00

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A recap of compensation for this category is as follows:

	Hours	 Rate	 Amount
A. Lasko	0.2	\$ 235.00	\$ 47.00
C. Wilson, Staff	1.0	55.00	 55.00
	1.2		\$ 102.00

#### YEAR-END WORK

The Applicant incurred 14.9 hours in preparing the Estate's Federal and State income tax returns for 2005.

The work also included the following:

- Summarized Trustee's cash receipts and disbursements.
- Calls with Trustee and counsel to obtain information.
- Estimates time to prepare information tax returns of Estate.

Cost \$1,746.00

A recap of compensation for this category is as follows:

	Hours	 Rate	_	Amount_
A. Lasko	2.7	\$ 235.00	\$	634.50
S. Kilgore, Manager	0.7	175.00		122.50
C. Lee, Staff	11.5	86.00	_	989.00
	14.9		\$	1,746.00

The Applicant reflects hourly rates and hours worked by each person by function. The recap also reflects the cost of each function performed. In order to assist the Court and parties in

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interest to evaluate this fee request, your Applicant has reflected below the range of rates charged by staff level.

Owner	\$185	-	\$235
Manager/Director	150	-	185
Supervisors	130	-	150
Senior	110	-	130
Assistant	40	-	110

#### **CONCLUSION AND REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

Based upon the foregoing, your Applicant submits that the relief requested is justified in the circumstances and its allowance would be appropriate. Therefore, the requested first and final compensation of \$1,848.00 and expenses of \$14.31 should be allowed for services by your Applicant for the period November 17, 2006 through February 19, 2007.

Alan D. Lasko

Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C. 29 South LaSalle Street Suite 1240 Chicago, Illinois 60603 (312) 332-1302

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

IN RE:	)	
	)	N. 05 D 40016
Estate of Thomas J. Meredith	)	No. 05 B 23012
	)	
61-6317968	)	Chapter 7
Debtor	)	
	)	Hon. John H. Squires

#### **AFFIDAVIT PURSUANT TO BANKRUPTCY RULE 2016**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)	
)	SS
COUNTY OF COOK )	

I, Alan D. Lasko, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and state as follows:

- 1. I am the owner of the Firm ALAN D. LASKO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. ("Lasko") and I am authorized to execute this Affidavit on behalf of Lasko. Lasko is the Court-approved accountants for Brenda Porter Helms, Chapter 7 Trustee in this case ("Trustee").
- 2. I have read the first and final Application of Lasko, for allowable compensation and expenses ("Application") and all of the factual matters set forth therein are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Lasko has performed the services set forth and described in the Application at the request and pursuant to the direction of the Trustee.
- 3. Lasko has not previously received payments for services rendered in connection with this case from the Trustee. Lasko has not entered into any agreement or understanding between itself and any other person for the sharing of compensation received or to be received for services rendered to the Trustee in connection with these cases, except among the members and associates of the Firm.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Alan D. Lasko

Notary Public

OFFICIAL SEAL
CLAUDETTE WILSON
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF ILLINOIS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:03/27/08

Date 2/18/07 Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C. Time 2:55Case 05-23012 Doc 81 cFiled 01409/08 ng Entered 01/09/08 14:56:50 Desc Main Page 1 Document Page 8 of 11

—Selection Criteria———

Date range :All Slip numbers :All User :All

Client :Meredith :Meredith.002 :Meredith.012

Activity:2 :All Custom Fields:All Reference :All

Slip status :Billed slips and transactions excluded

Other options:

Print Bills that are "paid in full" :Yes Include transactions outside date range :Yes Print Bills with no activity

Nickname 1 : Meredith.002 Nickname 2: 2578

: Estate of Thomas J. Meredith Address

c/o Brenda Porter Helms, Trustee

3400 W. Lawrence Chicago, IL 60625

In reference to: tax prep Rounding : None Full Precision: No

Last bill

Last charge : 2/10/07

\$0.00 Last payment : Amount :

Arrangement : Time Charges: From slips.

: Expenses: From slips.

<pre>Date/Slip#</pre>	Description	HOURS/RATE	AMOUNT	TOTAL
	A. Lasko / 800 review of data received from trustee and prepared doc request recap for same	0.40 235.00	94.00	
	A. Lasko / 800 review of data received from trustee and set up staff for year end tax work	0.40 235.00	94.00	
•	C. Lee / 800 initial preparation of workpapers for year end tax returns	1.10 86.00	94.60	
	S. Kilgore / 800 Staff assistance with 2006 journal entries	0.20 175.00	35.00	

Date 2/18/07 Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C.

Time 2:55Cpac 05-23012 Doc 81 cFiled 01/09/08ngEwterkd: 04/09/08 14:56:50 Desc Main Page 2

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Meredith.002 :Estate of Thomas J. Meredith (continued)

Date/Slip#	Description	HOURS/RATE	TUUOMA	TOTAL
	C. Lee / 800 preparation of workpapers and tax returns for 2005	5.80 86.00	498.80	
	S. Kilgore / 800 Review of workpapers and discussion with staff re year end issue	0.40 175.00	70.00	
	C. Lee / 800 prparation of workpaprs and year end tax returns - additional data received	2.30 86.00	197.80	
	S. Kilgore / 800 2006 Form 1099 Misc	0.10 175.00	17.50	
	C. Lee / 800 - checked the tax return for form 8275 and prepared a new draft return	0.30 86.00	25.80	
	A. Lasko / 800 review of corrections to workpapers and tax returns	0.90 235.00	211.50	
	A. Lasko / 800 preparation of irs 60 day letters	0.20 235.00	47.00	
2/8/07 #60892	A. Lasko / 800 sign off of federal and state income tax returns and irs 60 day copy and letter	0.40 235.00	94.00	
• •	<pre>C. Lee / 800 - prepared new letters and admin forms - made some corrections - added form 8275</pre>	0.60 86.00	51.60	
	C. Lee / 800 Estimated time to prepare estate's information tax returns and cover letter to trustee for same	1.40 86.00	120.40	

Date 2/18/07 Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C.

Time 2:55Cpac 05-23012 Doc 81 cFiled 01:09/08 ng Entered 02:09/08 14:56:50 Desc Main Page 3

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Meredith.002 :Estate of Thomas J. Meredith (continued)

Date/Slip#	Description	HOURS/RATE	AMOUNT	TOTAL
· ·	A. Lasko / 800 Estimated time to review estate's final information tax returns and cover letter to trustee for same	0.40 235.00	94.00	
TOTAL BILL	ABLE TIME CHARGES	14.90		\$1,746.00
Date/Slip#	Description	QTY/PRICE		
	A. Lasko / \$105 postage - mailed returns ot trustee	1 3.31	3.31	
	A. Lasko / \$115 photocopy costs 110 @ \$.10 re: copies of federal and state tax returns and irs 60 day copy and letter	1 11.00	11.00	
TOTAL BILL	ABLE COSTS			\$14.31
TOTAL NEW	CHARGES			\$1,760.31
NEW BALANC	<u>E</u>			
New Current	t period		1,760.31	
TOTAL NEW	BALANCE			\$1,760.31

Date 2/18/07 Alan D. Lasko & Associates, P.C. Time 2:55Case 05-23012 Doc 81 cFied 91609/98 ng Entered 91/09/08 14:56:50 Desc Main Page 4 Document Page 11 of 11

Nickname 1 : Meredith.012 Nickname 2: 2579

: Estate of Thomas J. Meredith Address

c/o Brenda Porter Helms, Trustee

3400 W. Lawrence Chicago, IL 60625

In reference to: fee petition

Rounding : None Full Precision : No

Last bill

Last bill : Last charge : 2/18/07

Last payment : Amount : \$0.00

Arrangement : Time Charges: From slips.

: Expenses: From slips.

Date/Slip# Description	HOURS/RATE	AMOUNT	TOTAL
2/18/07 C. Wilson / 800 #61140 preparation of fee petition	1.00 55.00	55.00	
2/18/07 A. Lasko / 800 #61141 preparation of fee petition	0.20 235.00	47.00	
TOTAL BILLABLE TIME CHARGES	1.20		\$102.00
TOTAL BILLABLE COSTS			\$0.00
TOTAL NEW CHARGES			\$102.00
NEW BALANCE			
New Current period		102.00	
TOTAL NEW BALANCE		<del></del>	\$102.00